

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 02601 200731Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EUR-12 /056 W
----- 063954 /10

R 200707Z DEC 76
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6956
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2601

NOFORN

E.O.11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT, CH
SUBJECT: TAO CHU TO BE REHABILITATED

1. DURING RECENT CEREMONY IN CONNECTION WITH VISIT BY
DR. KOTNIS MEMORIAL DELEGATION, INDIAN EMBOFF WAS TOLD BY
REWI ALLEY (PLEASE PROTECT SOURCING) THAT FORMER KWANGTUNG
LEADER AND TENG HSIAO-PING ASSOCIATE TAO CHU WOULD BE
REHABILITATED SHORTLY. BRITISH AND AUSTRALIAN EMBASSIES
HAVE SAME STORY FROM SEPARATE SOURCES. ALL ACCOUNTS HAVE
TAO CHU STILL ALIVE.

2. COMMENT: PERSISTENT RUMORS THROUGHOUT EARLY 1973 HAD
TAO CHU SLATED FOR REHABILITATION (THOUGH AN EQUAL NUMBER
OF STORIES INSISTED THAT THE REHABILITATION WOULD BE
POSTHUMOUS). A PUBLIC REAPPEARANCE BY HIS WIFE IN CANTON
GAVE CREDENCE TO THESE STORIES. BUT TAO'S CASE WAS
NEVER RESOLVED, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN ATTACKED
BY NAME IN AN ARTICLE PENNED BY YAO WEN-YUAN UNDER HIS
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PAGE 02 PEKING 02601 200731Z

OWN BYLINE. WITH YAO AND COMPANY NOW
GONE, THE WAY COULD BE CLEAR TO BRING BACK TAO--ASSUM-
ING HIS HEALTH PERMITS--TO A POSITION OF PROMINENCE.
GATES

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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